

BYLAWS



MARICOPA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION

Amended November 29, 2007

MCBA ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION BYLAWS

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BYLAWS
of the
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION
of the
MARICOPA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I. NAME

This organization shall be known as the “Environmental Law Section” of the Maricopa County Bar Association.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSES OF THE SECTION

- (a) To educate and inform the Section membership on legal and related topics of interest and concern to attorneys and other professionals practicing in the Environmental, Energy and Natural Resource fields.
- (b) To provide an effective forum for the exchange of ideas, views and information common or unique to the practice of Environmental, Energy and Natural Resource law.
- (c) To explore methods and procedures to facilitate and improve the relationship and communications between the bench and bar.
- (d) To represent and foster professionalism within all aspects of the legal community, the community-at-large, and specifically, environmental professionals, regulators, and practitioners. This may include proposals and support for legislation, court or administrative rules and procedures, and appropriate guidelines.
- (e) To facilitate social relationships among Section members.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Attorneys and non-attorney environmental professionals, such as environmental and engineering consultants, medical practitioners and scientists, shall be eligible for membership upon the payment of dues imposed on Section members for the current fiscal year pursuant to ARTICLE IV, Section 2 of these Bylaws. The foregoing qualifications notwithstanding, the Executive Board may from time to time by majority vote elect honorary members of the Section.

ARTICLE IV. DUES

Section 1 - Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Section shall commence on January 1 and shall end on December 31. Section dues shall be payable in accordance with the Bylaws of the Maricopa County Bar Association, as established from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Maricopa County Bar Association.

Section 2 - Membership Dues. The dues for members shall be an amount recommended by the Executive Board of the Section, and approved by the Board of Directors of the Maricopa County Bar Association.

Section 3 - Non-Payment of Dues. The name of any member who has not paid his or her annual dues to this Section by March 1 of the current fiscal year shall be stricken from the membership rolls of the Section; provided, however, he or she may be reinstated at any time during the fiscal year upon payment of the entire amount of annual dues.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

The officers of the Section shall be elected in accordance with Article X and shall be as follows: Chair; Immediate Past Chair; Vice-chair; Secretary; and Treasurer.

ARTICLE VI. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1 - Chair. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Section and of the Executive Board and shall have such other executive powers and perform such other executive duties as are consistent with these Bylaws and with the Articles and Bylaws of the Maricopa County Bar Association. The Chair shall have the authority to appoint members of the Section to standing and special committees and to designate the Chair of those committees.

Section 2 – Chair-elect. The Chair-elect shall have all of the powers and authority and perform all of the functions and duties of the Chair in the Chair’s absence or the Chair’s inability for any reason to exercise such powers and functions or to perform such duties. The Chair-elect automatically becomes the Chair the following year, so long as the Chair-elect is willing and able to serve, and is a member in good standing of the Section.

Section 3 - Immediate Past Chair. The Immediate Past Chair shall be a voting member of the Executive Board, so long as such person is a member in good standing of the Section. The Immediate Past Chair shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chair or the Executive Board.

Section 4 - Secretary. The Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the giving of notice for each meeting of the Section and all Executive Board meetings and any other correspondence, records or notices deemed necessary by the Executive Board, for taking minutes of such meetings, as well as be responsible for overseeing the maintaining of accurate records of the members of the Section.

Section 5 - Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of dues and other monies due and payable to the Section and for making the necessary disbursements thereof, subject to such procedures as shall be prescribed by the Executive Board or by the Board of Directors of the Maricopa County Bar Association.

Section 6- Term. The term of office of each of the officers shall commence on the first day of January of each year and shall end on the last day of December of the fiscal year.

Section 7 - Vacancy. Whenever any vacancy shall occur in any office by death, resignation, or otherwise, the same may be filled by the Executive Board by a majority vote at a regular meeting or special meeting called for such purpose.

Section 8 - Removal. Any officer may be removed by action of a majority of the members of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 - Membership. There shall be an Executive Board, which shall consist of not less than five and not more than ten members, and which shall include the officers of the Section.

Section 2 - Term. The term of office of each member of the Executive Board shall run concurrently with the term of office of the officers of the Section.

Section 3 - Duties. The Executive Board shall supervise and direct the affairs and determine the policies of the Section, subject to and in accordance with these Bylaws and the Articles and Bylaws of the Maricopa County Bar Association.

Section 4 - Meetings. The Executive Board may act at a meeting duly called or by a poll of each member of the Executive Board. A majority of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum to transact business. Meetings shall be called by the Chair or a majority of the Executive Board, and notice of such meetings shall be given to members of the Executive Board not less than two days prior to such meetings. A poll of the members of the Executive Board may be conducted by the Chair by telephone or by mail.

Section 5 - Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring on the Executive Board may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining Executive Board members. A person thus elected shall fill the unexpired term of his predecessor in office. Any position on the Executive Board to be filled by reason of increase in the number of members thereof may be filled by the Executive Board for a term of office continuing only until the next regular election of officers. If any member of the Executive Board is absent from three (3) meetings of the Board without sending a communication to the President stating the reason for such absence, or if the reason for absence is not accepted by the Executive Board, his or her seat on the Executive Board may be declared vacant and the Executive Board may proceed forthwith to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

Section 1 - Standing Committees. The Executive Board shall have the power to designate standing committees. A standing committee chair shall be selected by the Chair and approved by the Executive Board; standing committee members shall be selected by the respective standing committee chair and approved by the Chair.

Section 2 - Special Committees. The Chair shall have the power, without the need for Executive Board approval, to appoint special committees as are necessary for the purposes of furthering the objectives of the Section.

Section 3 - Term. The terms of the committee chair and the members shall run concurrently with the term of office of the Section.

ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 1 - Meetings. The Section shall hold regular meetings of its members at such dates, times and places as determined by the Executive Board.

Section 2 - Annual Meeting. An annual meeting of the members shall be held once each year at any time as determined by the Executive Board for the purpose of ratifying the election of officers to serve for the ensuing year.

Section 3 - Special Meetings. Special meetings of the members may be called by the Chair or by the Executive Board.

Section 4 - Notices. Notice of the time, place and purpose of all meetings shall be given to all members of the Section at least five days prior to the meeting. Notice will be given by telephone, fax, mail, e-mail, or a combination of these methods.

Section 5 - Quorum. One-half of the Section's Executive Board (or a majority if there is an odd number of Executive Board members) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Section.

Section 6 - Procedure. All meetings of the Section shall be conducted in accordance with rules of order established by the Chair.

ARTICLE X. ELECTIONS

Section 1 - Time. The Section shall conduct the election of officers each year at its annual meeting. Forty-five days before the meeting, the outgoing Chair shall notify Section members that nominations are being accepted and of the time and procedures for the submitting nominations in writing.

Section 2 - Nominations. Nominations for any position on the Executive Board may be made by any active member in good standing of the Section to the outgoing Chair no more than 45 days and no fewer than 14 days before the annual meeting. The outgoing Chair shall forward the names of the persons so nominated to the Section members at least 10 days before the annual meeting.

Section 3 - One Candidate for Each Office. If only one candidate is nominated for any position, in accordance with Section 2 of this Article, then that candidate will be deemed unanimously elected and the results shall be reported to the members of the Section.

Section 4 - Voting. Each member shall be entitled to vote once for each office to be filled at the election. Voting shall be conducted at the annual meeting in the manner determined by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended by the Executive Board by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a meeting duly called at which a quorum is present or by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Board polled pursuant to the provisions of ARTICLE VII, Section 4, of these Bylaws. Alternatively, these Bylaws may be amended by the general membership of the Section at a special meeting called for such purpose or at the annual meeting.

The Maricopa County Bar Association Board of Directors shall have the power to reject, amend or approve all or any portion of the Bylaws. The Bylaws of the Section shall not be effective until approved by the Board of Directors.

Revised: November 29, 2007